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Owner: Sara Zaragoza: Executive Assistant
Area: Academic and Student Affairs
Codes: EO 1061

Graduation Requirements in United States History, Constitution and American Ideals

Policy

This executive order (EO 1061) is issued pursuant to Section 40404 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. Its purpose is to establish guidelines for the administration of Section 40404 by prescribing the minimum subject matter elements to be included in courses or examinations designated as meeting the requirements of Section 40404. This executive order also describes requirements and procedures whereby other accredited institutions may certify that the requirements of Section 40404 have been satisfied.

I. Content of Course and Examination Designated as Meeting Requirements of Section 40404

- A. Any course or examination that addresses the historical development of American institutions and ideals must include all of the subject matter elements identified in the following subparagraphs of this paragraph I.A. Nothing contained herein is intended to prescribe the total content or structure of any course.
1. Significant events covering a minimum time span of approximately one hundred years and occurring in the entire area now included in the United States of America, including the relationships of regions within that area and with external regions and powers as appropriate to the understanding of those events within the United States during the period under study.
 2. The role of major ethnic and social groups in such events and the contexts in which the events have occurred.
 3. The events presented within a framework that illustrates the continuity of the American experience and its derivation from other cultures, including consideration of three or more of the following: politics, economics, social movements, and geography.
- B. Any course or examination that addresses the Constitution of the United States, the operation of representative democratic government under that Constitution, and the process of California state and local government must address all of the subject matter elements identified in the following subparagraphs of this paragraph I.B. Nothing contained herein is intended to prescribe the total content or structure of any course.
1. The political philosophies of the framers of the Constitution and the nature and operation of United States political institutions and processes under that Constitution as amended and interpreted.
 2. The rights and obligations of citizens in the political system established under the Constitution.

3. The Constitution of the state of California within the framework of evolution of federal-state relations and the nature and processes of state and local government under that Constitution.
4. Contemporary relationships of state and local government with the federal government, the resolution of conflicts and the establishment of cooperative processes under the constitutions of both the state and nation, and the political processes involved.

II. Certification

Students transferring from other accredited institutions of collegiate grade will be deemed to have met the requirements of Part I if the president of a regionally accredited institution or designee certifies that all requirements of Title 5, Section 40404 and the guidelines of this executive order have been met by satisfactory completion of course(s) or examination(s) at the baccalaureate level. Such certification shall be recognized by any campus of the California State University.

III. Procedures for Certification

The procedures for certification shall be those established for certification of General Education-Breadth Requirements (see Executive Order No. 342), modified as follows:

- A. Certification means that the entire requirement has been met. Partial certification is not authorized.
- B. Certification addresses satisfaction of the requirement only. It does not address credit for the units completed. When baccalaureate course credit or general education-breadth credit is involved, certification shall be accomplished according to established procedures for those purposes (see Executive Orders 167 and 1033).
- C. A list of courses and examinations to be used for certification shall be appended to preliminary and final general education course lists provided for in Executive Order 1033 together with a statement that such courses and examinations cover all subject matter elements set forth in Part I of this executive order.

IV. Authorization to Grant Exceptions

Exceptions to the foregoing requirements may be authorized under the following circumstances:

- A. For students who are enrolled in California State University degree major programs and who transferred from a California community college, the chancellor may authorize exceptions to the requirements specified herein if:
 1. The California State University baccalaureate degree major programs are mandated by law to articulate with California Community College associate degree programs; and
 2. The bachelor's degree programs are limited by law to 120 total semester units (180 quarter units); and
 3. The campus opts not to mandate that the requirements herein be completed in satisfaction of CSU General Education Breadth upper-division requirements ("double counted"); and
 4. The campus opts not to mandate that the requirements herein be completed in lieu of requirements in the degree major or double count in satisfaction of requirements in the degree major; and
 5. The campus opts not to mandate that the requirements herein be completed in lieu of local, campus-specific graduation requirements or double count in satisfaction of local, campus-specific graduation requirements; and

6. There are no available elective units in the degree program.
- B. On a program-by-program basis, for high-unit professional degree major programs, the chancellor may authorize campus-approved proposed exceptions to the requirements specified herein.
- C. In individual cases of demonstrable hardship, the appropriate campus authority may grant exceptions to the requirements specified herein.
- D. A postbaccalaureate student who is enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program shall not be subject to the requirements set forth in this section if:
 1. The student has previously earned a baccalaureate or higher degree from an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association; or
 2. The student has completed equivalent academic preparation, as determined by the appropriate campus authority.

Supersedes:

Executive Order No. 405

Issued by:

Charles B. Reed, Chancellor

All revision dates:

8/23/2011

Attachments

[Transmittal Letter](#)